

July 15, 1998

TO: Members of the MAG Regional Council

FROM: Mayor Neil G. Giuliano, Tempe, Chairman

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22, 1998

MAG Office, Suite 200 - Saguaro Room (see enclosed map)

302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

MAG Office, Suite 300

Please park in the garage under the Norwest Bank Building. Parking places will be reserved for Regional Council members on the first and second levels of the garage. Bring your ticket to the meeting, parking will be validated. For those using transit, the Regional Public Transportation Authority will provide transit tickets for your trip. For those using bicycles, please lock your bicycle in the bike rack in the garage.

The next Regional Council meeting will be held at the MAG offices at the time and place noted above. Members who wish to remove any items from the Consent Agenda are requested to contact the MAG office. MAG will host a progressive dinner/reception for the Regional Council members following the meeting in the MAG offices on the 3rd floor. Supporting information is enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions, please call the MAG office.

**MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA
July 22, 1998**

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

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| <p>1. <u>Call to Order</u></p> | |
| <p>2. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u></p> | |
| <p>3. <u>Approval of June 24, 1998 Meeting Minutes</u></p> | <p>3. Review and approve June 24, 1998 meeting minutes.</p> |
| <p>4. <u>Call to the Audience</u></p> <p>An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Regional Council for items that are not included on the agenda. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes will be provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Regional Council requests an exception to this limit.</p> | <p>4. For information.</p> |
| <p>5. <u>Showcased Agency Introduction</u></p> <p>As part of the MAG restructuring effort, an opportunity is provided for a MAG member agency to showcase its community. The City of Mesa will be featured at this meeting.</p> | <p>5. For information and discussion.</p> |
| <p>6. <u>Executive Director's Report</u></p> <p>The MAG Executive Director will provide a report to the Regional Council on activities of general interest.</p> | <p>6. For information and discussion.</p> |
| <p>7. <u>Approval of Consent Agenda</u></p> <p>Prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience will be provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Council members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.</p> | <p>7. For information, discussion and approval of the Consent Agenda.</p> |

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR CONSENT*TRANSPORTATION ITEMS*****8. Proposed Amendment to the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program**

Following approval of the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), seven federally funded Enhancement Fund projects have been approved by the State Transportation Board that need to be added to the TIP. The projects are the following: 1) ADOT, Spence Ave at McAllister Ave, ASU project to construct a multi-use path linking existing ASU and Tempe bike lanes (\$67,288); 2) ADOT, 17th Ave: Van Buren St. to RR, DOA pedestrian improvements (\$575,000); 3) Glendale, Grand Ave at 43rd Ave, billboard removal and pedestrian, bike, railroad and artwork (\$430,415); 4) Guadalupe, Calle Magdalena: Calle Maravilla to Avenida del Yaqui, construct sidewalk and landscaping (\$180,000); 5) Litchfield Park, Litchfield Rd. Bypass: Indian School Rd. to City of Goodyear, construct multi-use path and artwork (\$140,000); 6) Maricopa County, Usery Pass Rd., construction of shoulder enhancements to provide safer bike lanes (\$300,000), and 7) Phoenix, Central Ave: South Mountain Park to Jefferson St., construct and/or improve bike lanes, landscaping, rest areas, gateway and artwork (\$500,000).

These projects are all exempt projects for air quality conformity analysis purposes and only a "minor" amendment of the TIP will be required. On June 23, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended amending the TIP to include these projects. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendation of the Transportation Review Committee.

***9. Update of MAG Regional Aviation System Plan**

In May 1998, the Regional Council approved the FY 1999 MAG Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP included a consultant study to prepare an update to the Regional Aviation System Plan (RASP). The RASP was approved by the Regional Council in December 1993, and changing conditions require an update to the

8 For information, discussion and approval of a "minor" amendment of the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to add the following federally funded Enhancement Fund projects to the TIP in FY 1998: 1) ADOT, Spence Ave at McAllister Ave, ASU project to construct a multi-use path linking existing ASU and Tempe bike lanes (\$67,288); 2) ADOT, 17th Ave: Van Buren St. to RR, DOA pedestrian improvements (\$575,000); 3) Glendale, Grand Ave at 43rd Ave, billboard removal and pedestrian, bike, railroad and artwork (\$430,415); 4) Guadalupe, Calle Magdalena: Calle Maravilla to Avenida del Yaqui, construct sidewalk and landscaping (\$180,000); 5) Litchfield Park, Litchfield Rd. Bypass: Indian School Rd. to City of Goodyear, construct multi-use path and artwork (\$140,000); 6) Maricopa County, Usery Pass Rd., construction of shoulder enhancements to provide safer bike lanes (\$300,000), and 7) Phoenix, Central Ave: South Mountain Park to Jefferson St., construct and/or improve bike lanes, landscaping, rest areas, gateway and artwork (\$500,000).

9. For information and discussion.

Plan. An application to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has been submitted for the first phase of the update, and it is anticipated that the funds may become available in FY 1999. The first phase involves the preparation of an inventory, forecasts, demand capacity analysis and alternatives for meeting future demand. The second phase, which will be included in a subsequent application to the FAA, will provide for evaluating the alternatives, developing recommendations and preparing an implementation plan. Please refer to the enclosed material.

AIR QUALITY ITEM

*10. Consultation on Conformity Assessment for a Proposal to Add Eleven Exempt Projects to the FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP

On June 23, 1998, the MAG Transportation Review Committee recommended that four projects be added to the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to close out the FY 1998 MAG federally-funded program. They also recommended an addition to the TIP of seven other projects recently approved for Enhancement Funding. The projects are the following: (1) Design of a Multi-Use Path for the City of Chandler, (2) City of Tempe Special Event and Parking Management System, (3) MAG/ RPTA Telecommuting and Teleconferencing Program, (4) Design of a Town of Gilbert Traffic Control System, (5) Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) - Spence Ave. at McAllister Ave.: Arizona State University (ASU) project to construct a multi-use path linking existing ASU and Tempe bike lanes; (6) ADOT - Arizona Department of Administration, 17th Ave.: Van Buren St. to railroad, pedestrian improvements; (7) Glendale - Grand Ave. at 43rd Ave: billboard acquisition & removal, pedestrian and bike improvements, and artwork; (8) Guadalupe - Calle Magdalena, Calle Maravilla to Avenida del Yaqui: construct sidewalk and landscaping; (9) Litchfield Park, Litchfield Road Bypass, Indian School Rd. to City of Goodyear: construct multi-use path and artwork; (10) Maricopa County, Usery Pass Road: construction of shoulder enhancements to provide safer bike lanes, and (11) Phoenix, Central Ave: South Mountain Park to Jefferson St., construct and/or

10. For information, discussion and consultation.

improve bike lanes, landscaping, rest areas, gateway and artwork. The funding for these projects is contingent upon the final amount of federal funding received by MAG for FY 1998.

MAG has reviewed the eleven proposed projects for compliance with the federal conformity rule, and has found them to be exempt under that rule. This conformity assessment, which reaffirms the previously existing conformity determination for the TIP and the associated 1997 Long Range Transportation Plan Update, was transmitted for consultation purposes to the agencies and other interested parties. Both the proposed TIP amendment and the consultation for the corresponding conformity assessment were on the agenda for the July 15, 1998 meeting of the MAG Management Committee, and both are on the agenda for July 22, 1998 meeting of the MAG Regional Council. Comments on the conformity assessment were due by July 15, 1998.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality indicated they had reviewed the proposed additions to the TIP for compliance with the Arizona conformity rule, and "found them to be exempt from the requirements to determine conformity under that rule." They also stated that the "exempt projects are not expected to create adverse emission impacts, nor to interfere with Transportation Control Measure (TCM) implementation." The Arizona Department of Transportation stated that they "concur with the addition of the eleven exempt projects to the FY 1998-2002 MAG TIP, the funding of which is contingent upon the final amount of federal funding received by MAG for FY 1998". Please refer to the enclosed material.

GENERAL ITEMS

*II. Amendment of Socioeconomic Projection Procedures - Contract and Amendment to the FY 1999 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

On October 23, 1996, the MAG Regional Council selected the consulting firm of Planning Technologies to assist MAG in making enhancements to the socioeconomic projection procedures. Under this contract, Planning Technologies made revisions to the subarea

II. For information, discussion and approval to amend the Planning Technologies consultant contract to add an additional \$70,000 to enhance the socioeconomic projection procedures and to amend the FY 1998 & 1999 MAG Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP) as follows: 1) Carry forward and reprogram from the FY 1998 UPWP \$35,000 of FHWA PL funds from Work Element 104.40 Conformity Analysis to Work Element 801.40 Socioeconomic Modeling; 2) Provide the additional \$35,000 needed from FY

allocation model which they developed for MAG to prepare the population and employment projections by traffic analysis zone (TAZ) adopted by the Regional Council in June 1997. On October 29, 1997, the MAG Regional Council approved an amendment to the Planning Technologies contract. Under this amendment Planning Technologies is developing new trip generation data, based on the adopted socioeconomic projections and new transportation models. They are also preparing build-out trip generation data using the MAG subarea allocation model. Recently, Planning Technologies demonstrated a land use model capable of performing "what if" analyses and evaluates the regional impacts of alternative land use scenarios. This model would be useful for Valley Vision 2025, as well as for developing the next set of socioeconomic projections, based on the year 2000 Census. The additional amount of \$70,000 is necessary to adapt the model for this region and to make additional region-specific enhancements. A portion of this funding is available from FHWA PL funds previously allocated to air quality conformity "hot spot" analysis that is no longer needed due to federal legislative action. The FY 1999 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) would be amended to carry forward and reprogram from the FY 1998 UPWP funds to Socioeconomic Modeling. The additional \$35,000 would be provided from FY 1998 FHWA PL funds. Federal Transit Administration funds presently allocated in FY 1999 for Annual Conformity Analysis would be used in Regional System Planning. The Management Committee recommended amending the UPWP and using the funds to amend the consultant contract with Planning Technologies. Please refer to the enclosed material.

1998 FHWA PL contingency funds with \$2,932 from Work Element 104.45 and \$32,068 from Work Element 1001.40 Administration for a total increase in Work Element 801.40 of \$70,000; 3) Offset a portion of the amount needed by using \$30,000 in Federal Transit Administration funds previously allocated in FY 1999 in Work Element 103.50 Annual Conformity Analysis to Work Element 601.10 Regional System Planning.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

TRANSPORTATION ITEMS

12. Federal Fiscal Year FY 1998 MAG Federal Funds Final Closeout / Amendment to the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and to the FY 1999 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

On June 9, 1998, the President signed into law, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). The analysis of the Act is underway by the Federal Highway Administration, and the final amount of federal funds for FY 1998 is yet to be determined. We currently do not have any requests to carry forward MAG federal funds to FY 1999. In anticipation that we will be provided a final amount of funding for FY 1998, a preliminary funding estimate and options for programming the funds have been developed. It is important to note that the Obligation Authority to spend the FY 1998 funds must be committed by September 30, 1998 and the projects for the funds must have completed federal procedures. On June 23, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended a prioritized list for FY 1998 funding. Four of the recommended projects will require a "minor" amendment to the FY 1998 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. Three projects, MAG Air Quality/Transportation Studies, the MAG/RPTA Telecommuting and Telecommunications project, and the Pedestrian Design project, will require an amendment to the FY 1999 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendations of the Transportation Review Committee with the exception that the Phoenix/Maricopa County Bell Road project be advanced from number ten to number seven in the rankings. Please refer to the enclosed material.

13. Update of Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

In June, an overview of the recently passed Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century

12. For information, discussion and approval of the following ranked priorities for uncommitted FY 1998 funds:

- 1) Accelerate transit vehicles from FY 1999 - \$3,592,800 (CMAQ);
- 2) Accelerate the design of pedestrian projects - \$150,000 (CMAQ)**;
- 3) MAG Air Quality/Transportation Studies - \$500,000 (STP-MAG)**;
- 4) Accelerate Tempe Downtown Special Event Traffic Control system from FY 2001 - \$1,600,000 (CMAQ)*;
- 5) Accelerate design of Chandler, Dobson Road bike project from FY 2001 - \$75,000 (CMAQ);
- 6) Accelerate design of Gilbert traffic signal project from FY 2002 - \$95,000 (CMAQ);
- 7) Increase federal share on Phoenix/Maricopa County Bell Road project - \$479,000 (STP-MAG)
- 8) Accelerate MAG/RPTA Telecommuting/Telecommunications project from FY 2001 - \$1,320,000 (CMAQ)**;
- 9) Accelerate transit vehicles from FY 2000 - \$5,392,500 (CMAQ);
- 10) Accelerate transit vehicles from FY 2001 - \$5,625,000 (CMAQ);

*authorize an amendment to the FY 1998-2002 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to include these projects in FY 1998

**Also amend the FY 1999 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

13. For information, discussion and approval that MAG should work with ADOT to ensure that suballocations of increased federal funds to the region are equitable and that the "donor/donee" fair share concept be applied to this metropolitan area.

(TEA-21) was provided to the Regional Council. Final funding levels for TEA 21 are being determined by the Federal Highway Administration and by the Arizona Department of Transportation. Initial estimates from FHWA indicate that Arizona's annual average of highway spending would increase from \$256 million to \$403 million. This would account for a 57 percent increase in transportation funding to Arizona over the next six years. There is concern that the amount returned to this region would not be proportional to statewide increases. On June 23, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) recommended that MAG should work with ADOT to ensure that suballocations of increased federal funds to the region are equitable and that the "donor/donee" fair share concept be applied to this metropolitan area. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendation of the TRC. Staff will provide a report on efforts to determine the funding level for this region. Please refer to the enclosed material.

14. Update of Process for Programming MAG Federal Funds

A special subcommittee of the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) has held four meetings regarding improving the programming process for MAG federal funds. On June 23, 1998, the TRC reviewed a report from the subcommittee and the following policy and process enhancements are being recommended: 1) More proactive community outreach; 2) Early guidelines for selection of projects; 3) Favor selection of projects with higher local match rates; 4) Update the MAG Congestion Management System; 5) Favor selection of projects which are multimodal, and 6) Undertake a more proactive approach in securing new transportation funding. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendations of the TRC with the exception that recommendation three and five be deferred to when the guidelines for selections of projects are considered. Please refer to the enclosed material.

15. Expansion of Southwest Passage Corridor for Federal Funding Under TEA 21

Recently, Congress passed TEA 21 which

14. For information, discussion and approval of the following policy and process for programming MAG federal funds: 1) Develop a more proactive public outreach process; 2) Include early guidelines in the project selection process; 3) Update the MAG Congestion Management System; and 4) Undertake a more proactive approach in securing new transportation funding.

15. For information, discussion and approval to support the expansion of the Southwest Passage Corridor through Arizona to Houston, Texas as

included federal funds for planning and constructing transportation corridors of national significance. Representatives of the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas and the Councils of Governments within those states have been conferring for over a year to develop an integrated and comprehensive trade/transportation strategy for the East-West trade corridor, named the Southwest Passage. The objective of the Southwest Passage is to connect the east-west trade routes along the U.S./Mexico border with a seamless freight transportation system extending between Los Angeles and Houston. To date, only the California portion of the corridor has been identified for funding in TEA 21. However, there are provisions in the TEA 21 legislation for designating additional corridors. At a meeting on June 10, 1998 in Tucson, representatives from several states and Councils of Government met to discuss the possible expansion of the Southwest Passage Corridor through Arizona to Houston, Texas for federal funding under TEA 21. Representatives in attendance were requested to seek support for the expansion from their policy boards. On June 23, 1998, the Transportation Review Committee recommended supporting this expansion of the Southwest Passage Corridor for federal funding in TEA 21. The Management Committee concurred with this recommendation. Please refer to the enclosed material.

a high priority corridor for federal funding under TEA 21.

GENERAL ITEMS

16. Status Report on Census 2000

A number of programs essential to the success of Census 2000 will be forthcoming in the coming months. The Census Bureau will provide an opportunity for local governments to: update address lists that will be used to distribute census questionnaires; recommend changes to the units of geography by which the results of the census will be reported; and establish complete count committees to encourage that all residents respond to the census questionnaire. With each housing unit counted in the census estimated to be worth about \$10,000 in federal and state funds to local governments in the decade following the census, it is crucial that member

16. For information and discussion.

agencies commit the resources necessary to participate in these census programs. MAG staff is working with members of its Population Technical Advisory Committee to facilitate preparations for the census.

We have become increasingly concerned about delays and logistical problems in carrying out Census Bureau Programs. These concerns have been communicated to the Census Bureau and outlined in a letter from James M. Bourey, MAG Executive Director, to the Chair of the Census 2000 Advisory Committee. Mr. Bourey serves on the Committee as a representative of the International City and County Management Association (ICMA). The Census Bureau's local government partnership specialist for Arizona will be available to provide additional information on the status of programs and to answer questions. Please refer to the enclosed material.